

Application Serial No.: 09/886,213
Reply to Office Action dated November 29, 2004

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 25-28, and 33-37 are pending in this case, Claim 37 having been amended by way of the present Amendment. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 25-28, and 33-36 are allowed.

The Applicants want to thank Primary Examiner Kirsten Jolley for the courtesies extended during the personal interview with Applicants' representative, Christopher Ward, conducted on February 1, 2005.

The specification has been amended to indicate the updated status of the parent application.

Claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,423,651 B1) in view of Haluska (U.S. Patent No. 5,380,567). For the reasons discussed below, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the obviousness rejections.

Claim 37 has been amended to include a step of "(d) removing the substrate from the treatment atmosphere by a moving mechanism having a cooling unit while cooling the substrate to a temperature lower than the temperature at which the coating solution oxidizes," in a similar manner to Claim 2. As discussed and tentatively agreed during the personal interview, the Applicants submit that such an amendment overcomes the art rejection of Claim 37 and places the application into condition for allowance.

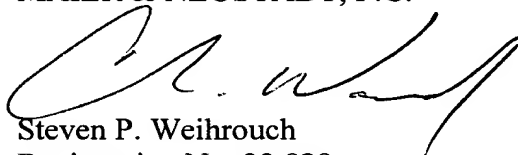
The Applicants respectfully request the entry of the amendment set forth herein, since the amendment is believed to place the application into condition for allowance.

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Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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